

Dear Dave,

8/29/78

Your 8/26 is well thought through and I appreciate it but as of now, which is not the time of the King/Ray broadcast, I think it is probably impractical.

When the hearings resume, on JFK, there will be a different situation, different people who have to a degree organized to exclude me and it would be unwise for me to ask PBS for the time.

What I ~~xxx~~ wrote you about was NPR. It was kiboshed by the HSCA, Frank Hankiewicz or both, beginning with the cutting of the interview that was aired. I did not hear from PBS. Faith Fancher called me at Manckiewicz' suggestion.

Although I took all of this up with others in May, including Bud, Hoch and the AIB people, there was only selfish reaction, none to me. Except, of course, that to my face Bud agreed. He was in fact so anxious to talk that he went to JL's office instead of accepting my offer to go to his. He has arranged for Hoch to stay with him for the period of the JFK hearings.

On the 6th I'll be taping a new a.m. TV show for Washington airing. It is Tony Brown's. I think it will be aired about 9/18, possibly as his opener. If it is his opener other stations probably will take it in.

I have no desire to enter into competition with these other people, even though none can claim impartiality because all were committee supporters.

On the other hand, I cannot represent myself as any kind of supporter of what it is generally (mis)understood to be the committee's supposed subject of investigation, the official accounts. If I were to seek time on my own I could not do this as a supporter of the official accounts. Or, while I am alone in this middle position it is not so understood by those whose color comes in black and white only.

If PBS or anyone else would want me I'd be willing to take the time if transportation were included. The bus is too much of a hassle, the cost accumulates and the schedule is lousy, infrequent and inconvenient except for getting to court. I expect no spontaneous invitations and I think I should not make the request because it would undoubtedly be misunderstood.

There also is a problem with too many people. All gets diluted and too much gets lost. I think a panel of critics would be a bad idea.

While the AIB will not drop its pretenses it is, apparently, desperate for the attention because it has consumed all the considerable amount of money it ripped off from the campuses and is in financial distress. I suspect Hoch's role, which begins with an authentic expertise (if restricted to records and fact), is to make them respectable and also experts.

What this boils down to is that I see a situation also rigged to keep the firehorse away from the fire. If the horse has accumulated enough wisdom, as from getting burned one accumulates wisdom, he will not go charging to the fire unless he sees a clear way through to it. In the absence of a path opened by others during the period of quiet the only sensible way is to await developments and be alert to any path they may open, as had I been in Washington "C" willan would have made one.

When I'm in town I'll look for time and an opening on the 6th. I'll be at NBC and I may have time to stop off at ABC, where I have food connections in the wrong place. While it is probable that neither will have active live coverage, a purpose may be served at each place. Neither would present the awkwardness my going to PBS means, if I go there unasked.

Sorry to hear that George did not make law school. Good that you have help on

following up after Deloyd. If it is possible for George, would graduate school and the benefits it could hold help him into law school?

I've just finished a fast trip through about 50,000, maybe 40,000, on Ruby. Less of interest in them.

On thing I do not recall from the past is the suggestion that he was "exiled" from Chicago. Several times he is quoted as saying this and other times what amounts to a paraphrase. I recall only one explanation, not substantiated, that he stole about \$50,000. I recall no evidence that he ever had that much money at any one time.

I've indicated the pages of which I want separate copies. We had a malfunction of both the typewriter and the copier so Lil is behind in both areas of work. She had made copies of about a third of the Sections. I'll be going over the copies. Of these fewer than in the past are for appeals. (Had a nice card today from Shea, who is on vacation.)

There are omissions I'll appeal. The records yet to be provided, despite the claim to total compliance, will make for further appeals. (One on Ruby is pre-assassination.)

The FBI came up with a file it had not earlier acknowledged. In Dallas it was titled, "President's Commission of Assassinations." Literally, including the 'omission. With only a single record prior to the end of the commission's life. (I think I've already spotted the real file, a different 62 file to which I found a reference.)

Seven of the Ruby sections are of clippings. I've not looked at them and do not now plan to.

Wil will finish the large typing job she is on before the end of the Labor Day weekend. If our improvisations with the copier work she'll probably also have completed the Ruby copying by then and I'll have gone over the copies. However, aside from an appeal I do not anticipate any need for any writing about the Ruby file. I'll have a separate file of the selections for a while and then I'll run them in with the others I've made from the Dallas records.

Beckwith, aka Unindicted Co-conspirator, provided a 68-page affidavit in the King case and I've dictated a length memo to JL on it. This is what "il is typing. I think it will bring us closer to the day when Beckwith is not provided FBI FOIA affidavits. I do not think it will make Beckwith or the DJ lawyers happier.

Best to you all,